



Lynne.S.Goodman@fakeaddress.net on 10/12/2001 06:45:07 PM

552062

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OCT 15 2001

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October 12, 2001 18:45:07

IP address: 209.176.106.53

---> Commentors Name: Ms. Lynne S Goodman
---> Organization:
---> Position:

---> The Commentors Address:
---> 727 Scarlet Oak Ct
---> Monroe, Michigan 48162

---> Email Information:
---> irvlock@foxberry.net
---> Add commentor to the mailing list : no

---> Contact Information:
---> fax number : -
---> phone number : 734-2415262
---> organization :
---> position :

--> Comment Text :
I strongly believe the government should determine that the Yucca Mountain site is suitable for a used fuel and related high level radioactive waste repository, make a recommendation, a decision and commence work on the Yucca Mountain site to accept used fuel and high level radioactive waste. This conclusion is based on material I read and a visit I made to the site. After seeing the tunnels, hearing about the studies and seeing the location, I was very convinced that the site is suitable.

The federal government had and has an obligation to develop and operate a federal repository for high level waste and used fuel. While the deadline has passed, the obligation is still valid. My and other ratepayers' money continues to be collected for the repository. The government is obligated to spend that money to provide a repository. I don't like that I have to pay in my electric bill for both the government fee to dispose of high level radioactive waste and the costs the utility is incurring in increasing temporary storage capability.

One specific comment I have about the plans I heard about when I visited Yucca Mountain, is that I think the repository should be designed to minimize handling of high level radioactive waste and used fuel. As much as possible, the containers (or liners) used for shipping should then be placed in the repository casks. Unloading used fuel and reloading it into different liners or containers is increasing the probability of a problem, especially one that will exposure workers to unnecessary radiation or cause the need to do additional cleanup of the work area. It seems like a stupid idea to me. Definitely the previous ideas of a multi-use canister seem more sensible.

The technology exists to develop the repository, the site appears very suitable, with the studies showing radiation to the public to be minimal, well below background radiation. The federal government should promptly make a decision to develop the Yucca Mountain repository and then finish construction as soon as practical. It definitely makes more sense to store used fuel and highly radioactive material in a site such as Yucca Mountain than in many facilities around the country.

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